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Susan Parker, Administrator

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## **SUNSET BEACH MEDIA RELEASE**

# **Sunset Beach Declares a State of Emergency**

### ***Hurricane Matthew Prompts a Voluntary Evacuation Order***

SUNSET BEACH, NC – Sunset Beach declares a State of Emergency in preparation for the impacts of Hurricane Matthew. Heavy rainfall and elevated winds are expected beginning Friday night. The high likelihood of a storm surge, localized flooding and the possibility of power outages due to falling limbs and trees has prompted this declaration.

“We urge residents and visitors to take this threat seriously”, said Mayor Robert Forrester. Public officials encourage residents to sign up for the emergency notification alert system on the website ([www.sunsetbeachnc.gov](http://www.sunsetbeachnc.gov)) and monitor both the Town of Sunset Beach website and Facebook page. We encourage residents to obtain a Re-Entry Pass at Town Hall, prepare a disaster readiness kit as detailed on the Federal Emergency Management website ([www.Ready.gov/build-a-kit](http://www.Ready.gov/build-a-kit)) and avoid travel this Saturday.

The impacts of Hurricane Matthew has also prompted a voluntary evacuation order for the island and low-lying or flood prone areas on the mainland. Shelters will open at 8 a.m. Friday at West Brunswick High School (550 Whiteville Rd., Shallotte), North Brunswick High School (114 Scorpion Drive, Leland) and South Brunswick High School (100 Cougar Road, Boiling Spring Lakes). West Brunswick High School is a pet-friendly shelter.

Residents evacuating to a shelter should bring identification, any needed medications, any needed items like glasses or diapers, clothing for 3-7 days, pillows, toiletries, chargers for cell phones, and books, games or cards. Residents should bring sheets or bedding, and cots and air mattresses if available. Alcohol, illegal substances, and weapons are not permitted.

Fire Chief Kevin Dempsey stated, “We are not out of the woods yet!”

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Mayor Robert Forrester • Mayor Pro-Tem: Carol Scott  
Town Council: Mark Benton • Richard Cerrato • Peter Larkin

***Part of North Carolina's Brunswick Islands***

